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Controller Appoints Alan Gordon to Deputy Controller for Environmental Policy

SACRAMENTO – State Controller John Chiang today announced he has appointed Alan Gordon to serve as Deputy Controller, Environmental Policy.

A longtime Senate staffer and gubernatorial appointee, Gordon will oversee the Controller's environmental policy agenda, and serve as his designee to the State Lands Commission, the California Coastal Commission, Pollution Control Financing Authority, and the Ocean Protection Council.

For most of the past six years, Gordon has served as Principal Consultant to Senator Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto), chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Delta Conservation, Conveyance and Governance. In that position, Gordon was responsible for water, natural resources and energy policy issues.

His primary assignment during his years as principal environmental consultant to Senator Simitian was to draft and staff legislation designed to end a decades-long battle over how to address California's water crisis. Ultimately, he helped broker the passage of SBx7 1, a ground-breaking law that establishes a new Delta Plan to provide a more reliable water supply for California while protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem.

An environmental and civil rights attorney in Atlanta, Georgia, for five years in the 1980's, Gordon began his 24 years of California public service in 1987 as a policy consultant to former senators Art Torres, and Bill Lockyer. He took a break from the Senate in 1999, when he was appointed deputy director at the Department of Toxic Substances Control for former Governor Gray Davis. He returned to the Senate in 2002, where he served as consultant to former Senator Gloria Romero and Senator Simitian until 2009. He served a short stint as Chief Deputy Inspector General over ARRA Funds for former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger before returning to the Senate in 2010.

Gordon graduated from Emory University in Atlanta in 1977, with a bachelor's degree in history and politics. He earned his law degree from Golden Gate University in 1981.

His appointment was effective Monday, May 16, 2011.

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